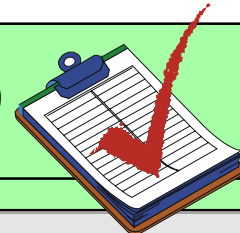


# CHS CHECKUP



A publication by and for employees of the Kentucky Cabinet for Health Services

Oct. 15, 2001

## NEWS BRIEFS

### STOP SMOKING CLASSES

Starting Nov. 8, the Department for Public Health will host the Cooper/Clayton Method to Stop Smoking, a 12-week comprehensive program. These workshops have been conducted across Kentucky and have been very successful. The Cooper/Clayton Method is an effective smoking cessation method which addresses all aspects of smoking and incorporates the use of nicotine replacement products. The classes will be held weekly in the Health Services Auditorium from 7:30-8:30 a.m. Call Beth Thomas or Irene Centers at 564-7996 for more information.

### BIOTERRORISM INFO

Information about bioterrorism and anthrax is available at the Department for Public Health website. The address is: <http://publichealth.state.ky.us/BIOTERRORISM.htm>



**TIP OF  
THE  
WEEK**

Humor is a healthy way to tone up your entire body. Laughter cleanses the respiratory system, stimulates the digestive tract, increases the heart rate and circulation, lowers blood pressure, reduces muscle tension, and increases the release of endorphins, the body's natural painkillers.

## Hesen, Robinson, Named To New Positions With CHS

CHS Secretary Marcia Morgan has announced who will serve as deputy secretary and Medicaid commissioner.

Ellen Hesen, who has been serving as interim Medicaid commis-

sioner and was general counsel, will assume the duties as deputy secretary on Nov. 1.

And Mike Robinson, a former Social Insurance commissioner  
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**Donna Clinkenbeard speaks from a remote location to visitors to the Distance Communication and Learning Center last week.**

## Distance Communication and Learning Center Opens

Employees now have access to a facility dedicated to employee and organizational development and training. The Distance Communication and Learning Center, located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the Health Services Building, opened Oct. 11.

The Center offers both traditional and distance learning opportunities to CHS employees. Among traditional learning offerings are classroom instruction aimed at training, special training to meet individual and group needs, and a computer training lab designed for small group, hands-on computer learning.

Distance learning opportunities include videoconferencing that enables participants to see, hear and respond to other participants in distant locations, satellite programs available from leading professional and government groups, and self-paced, Web-based tutorials and other distance learning options in the computer training lab.

Registration procedure for training and scheduling is available on the CHS intranet at <http://chsnets:2001> or call Sataysha Edwards, at 564-0036, ext. 3906.



### Public Health Honors Employees

The Department for Public Health held its fourth annual Employee Recognition Ceremony on Monday, October 8. The awards were presented by Commissioner of Public Health Dr. Rice Leach and other staff members.

**Excellence in Program Implementation Award** for non-supervisory staff, this award recognizes an individual who helps our programs operate and succeed.

**Nominees:** Bob Calhoun, Adult and Child Health, and Tom Collins, Epidemiology

**Winner:** Jan Jasper, Public Health Protection and Safety

**Excellence in Program Support Award** for a non-supervisory individual who provides critical support to the operation of the organization.

**Nominees:** Patricia Brown, Adult and Child Health

**Winner:** Sharon Perl, Public Health Protection and Safety

**Excellence in Leadership Award** recognizes a supervisor or team leader of one or more staff.

**Nominees:** Lisa Walls, Resource

Management, and Trish Williams, Epidemiology

**Winner:** Anita Travis, Public Health Protection and Safety

**Group Awards for Excellence** for a staff who work on projects that require a multi-disciplinary team effort.

**Nominees:** One Percent or Less Campaign Committee, Adult and Child Health: Lisa Arvin, Sandy Cleveland, Becky Derifield, Mickey Smith, and Jackie Walters.

**Winners: (tie)** HIV Services Programs, Epidemiology: Trista Chapman, Peggy Cook, Lisa Daniel, Vicky Johnson, and Laurel Walls.

Information Technology Branch, Resource Management: Ruby Adams, Valerie Armstrong, Greg Harrod, Gerald Hedrick, Mary Manley, Phillip Mills, Eric Morrison, and Mark Vaughn.

**Local Health Department Awards for Excellence:**

**Improving the Public's Health:** Barren River District Health Department

**Award for Improvement:** Johnson County Health Department and Board of Health

### FLSA Training Plans

One of the most common problem areas for employers is how to determine the Fair Labor Standards Act status for positions within the organization.

The Cabinet for Health Services automatically designates positions that are a Grade 13 and below as Non-Exempt or Covered under the FLSA. This means that employees in these positions are compensated at the rate of time and one-half for all hours worked over 40 hours within a work-week.

Because wage and hours laws are complex, it is critical that supervisors understand how to determine the appropriate FLSA status of positions Grade 14 and higher so that we compensate employees for working overtime in compliance with the law.

A training session has been designed for supervisory staff who have responsibility for positions that are Grade 14 and above. Douglas L. McSwain, an attorney who is a partner with the firm of Sturgill, Turner, Barker & Moloney, PLLC, will conduct each session. Supervisors will learn how to apply the FLSA test and during the training will re-evaluate each position Grade 14 and above that is under their supervision.

There are over 200 supervisors across the state that must attend this FLSA training. Each session will last approximately three hours. There are a total of nine trainings scheduled between October 18--31. Five will be held in Frankfort, two in Louisville, and one each in Hopkinsville and Somerset. For more information, call Bill Irvin at 502-564-2781, ext. 3903.



Dr. Rice Leach with the individual winners: On left, Jan Jasper, Excellence in Program Implementation; Sharon Perl, Excellence Award for Program Support; Anita Travis on right, Excellence in Leadership Award.

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### New CHS Appointments Announced

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who has most recently worked with the Governor's Office for Technology will be Medicaid commissioner, also effective Nov. 1.

Hesen began with CHS as general counsel in 1996. She was named interim Medicaid commissioner in March and has worked on a major reorganization plan. Hesen previously worked in private practice in Louisville and served with the Jefferson County Attorney's Office.

Robinson, an 18-year veteran of state government, has been serving as executive director of the Office of Administrative Services in GOT. Secretary Morgan said Robinson was a proven manager with the experience to help Medicaid re-engineer and balance its budget. ✓

### Davis To Take Part In Leaders Program

Lori Davis, a hearing officer in the CHS Administrative Hearings Branch, has been selected to participate in the 2001 Young Leaders Program.

The program's inaugural conference will include a total of 60 young leaders from the U.S., Russia, and the United Kingdom. The conference is next month in Washington, D.C. and is co-sponsored by the Close Up Foundation and Duke University's Terry Sanford Institute of Public Policy.

The American Bar Association's Administrative Law and Regulatory Practice Section nominated Ms. Davis for this program in light of her outstanding contributions to the Association's Young Lawyers Division. ✓

### Nearly 300 Attend Parent-Professional Retreat

Nearly 300 people attended Parent- Professional Retreat at Jenny Wiley State Park earlier this month.

The retreat brought together 50 families with children who have special health care needs as well as staff, professionals and volunteers for a weekend of education, networking and relaxation. The weekend was sponsored by the Commission for Children with Special Health Care Needs in collaboration with Shriners Hospitals, the University of Kentucky Department of Pediatrics, Independence Place and KY-SPIN.

Two seminar tracks were held. The parent-professional track dealt with transition, medical and coping issues. The teen track worked with education, career, sports and recreation issues. In addition, supervised activities for 100 youth participants were held throughout the day.

Participants attended banquets, dances and education programs. These events gave the young people a chance to participate in activities that are usually not geared to them while allowing their parents a chance to spend time with their peers while knowing that their children were in safe surroundings.

The focus of the weekend was on the complete family. Parents and young people had time to learn, meet other families and enjoy themselves. The conference ended on Sunday morning when families used the closing breakfast as a time to talk about the weekend's events

and create or expand their support networks.

"This was a great opportunity and provide information to families, youth and children about the challenges and opportunities facing individuals with special health care needs," said Eric Friedlander, Executive Director of the Commission. "At the same time, we were able to recognize the efforts of parent support and networking organizations." ✓



Eric Friedlander (stickers on head), director of the Commission on Children With Special Health Care Needs, plays leap frog with friends at the Parent-Professional Retreat